10/031561

PATENT
19036/37906

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:	) "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label
	) No. EL 200010224 US.
KAZUHIKO YAMASHITA, ET AL.	) Date of Deposit:
	) October 25, 2001
SERIAL NO.: To Be Determined	) I hereby certify that this
	) paper (or fee) is being
FILED: To Be Determined	) deposited with the United
	) States Postal Service
FOR: PROGRAM-DISTRIBUTABLE	) "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO
COMBINATION WEIGHING	) ADDRESSEE" service under 37
APPARATUS AND PROGRAM-	) CFR §1.10 on the date
DISTRIBUTABLE COMBINATION	) indicated above and is
WEIGHING SYSTEM	) addressed to: Assistant
	) Commissioner for Patents,
BASED ON: PCT/JP01/01338	) Washington, D.C. 20231
Filed: February 23, 2001 and	)
JP 2000-51356 filed	)
February 28, 2000	) Michael Hatman
	)
GROUP ART UNIT: To Be	)
Determined	)
	)
EXAMINER: To Be Determined	)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A" ACCOMPANYING
SECTION 371 NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION AS FILED

Commissioner for Patents
BOX PCT
Washington, D.C.   20231

Sir:

        Please amend the above-identified accompanying

Section 371 national stage application as filed as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS: 531 Rec'd PCT   2 5 OCT 2001

Please amend claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15 and 16 as follows:

--3.   (Amended) The program-distributable combination weighing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the communication device is selected from the group consisting of a modem, a terminal adapter, and a router.--

--4.   (Amended) The program-distributable combination weighing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising temporary storage means for storing the control program received via the communication medium.--

--7.   (Amended) The program-distributable combination weighing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the communication device receives the control program using a protocol selected from the group consisting of TCP/IP, IPX/SPX, NetBEUI, NetBIOS, and AppleTalk.--

--8.   (Amended) The program-distributable combination weighing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of weighing units are respectively provided with unit control portions, the control program received by the communication device includes unit control programs for controlling the weighing units, and the weighing machine control portion distributes the unit control programs received by the communication device to the respective unit control portions.--

--11.   (Amended) The combination weighing system according to Claim 9, wherein the communication device of the combination weighing apparatus is selected from the group consisting of a modem, a terminal adapter, and a router.--

--12.   (Amended) The combination weighing system according to Claim 9, wherein the combination weighing apparatus further includes temporary storage means for storing the control program received via the communication medium.--

--15.   (Amended) The combination weighing system according to Claim 9, wherein the communication device receives the control program using a protocol selected from the group consisting of TCP/IP, IPX/SPX, NetBEUI, NetBIOS, and AppleTalk.--

--16.   (Amended) The combination weighing system according to Claim 9, wherein unit control portions for respectively controlling the plurality of weighing units are provided, the control program received by the communication device includes unit control programs for controlling the weighing units, and the weighing machine control portion distributes the unit control programs included in the control program received by the communication device to the respective unit control portions.--
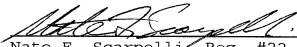
REMARKS

The present preliminary amendment removes multiple dependency from the claims.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

A timely Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: *Oct. 25, 2001*

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15 and 16 as follows:

--3. (Amended) The program-distributable combination weighing apparatus according to Claim 1 [or 2], wherein the communication device is selected from the group consisting of a modem, a terminal adapter, and a router.--

--4. (Amended) The program-distributable combination weighing apparatus according to [any of Claims 1 to 3] Claim 1, further comprising temporary storage means for storing the control program received via the communication medium.--

--7. (Amended) The program-distributable combination weighing apparatus according to [any of Claims 1 to 6] Claim 1, wherein the communication device receives the control program using a protocol selected from the group consisting of TCP/IP, IPX/SPX, NetBEUI, NetBIOS, and AppleTalk.--

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--8. (Amended) The program-distributable combination weighing apparatus according to [any of Claims 1 to 7] <u>Claim 1</u>, wherein the plurality of weighing units are respectively provided with unit control portions, the control program received by the communication device includes unit control programs for controlling the weighing units, and the weighing machine control portion distributes the unit control programs received by the communication device to the respective unit control portions.--

--11. (Amended) The combination weighing system according to Claim 9 [or 10], wherein the communication device of the combination weighing apparatus is selected from the group consisting of a modem, a terminal adapter, and a router.--

--12. (Amended) The combination weighing system according to [any of Claims 9 to 11] <u>Claim 9</u>, wherein the combination weighing apparatus further includes temporary storage means for storing the control program received via the communication medium.--

--15. (Amended) The combination weighing system according to [any of Claims 9 to 14] <u>Claim 9</u>, wherein the communication device receives the control program using a protocol selected from the group consisting of TCP/IP,

IPX/SPX, NetBEUI, NetBIOS, and AppleTalk.--

--16. (Amended) The combination weighing system according to [any of Claims 9 to 15] Claim 9, wherein unit control portions for respectively controlling the plurality of weighing units are provided, the control program received by the communication device includes unit control programs for controlling the weighing units, and the weighing machine control portion distributes the unit control programs included in the control program received by the communication device to the respective unit control portions.--